THE OBSERVER

BRUCE DENNIS
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"THERE'S NO PLACE LIKE HOME."

A keen observer of business conditions is authority for the statement that nearly every moderate sized town and village in the central states actually needs houses to quarter its people. The boom in far distant land schemes, now on the wane, has taken money away from home, the westerner investing in the east and the easterner in the west. There is a lure about things distant that the average man finds it hard to resist. "Distance lends enchantment," especially when properly played up by the skillful advertising writer working for an ingenious land promoter.

No one can deny the wisdom of land investments when the investor buys land for a home for cultivation and actual development. But much of the money placed in circulation by land schemes during the last two or three years has gone into property which the buyer knew nothing about beyond what he read in a prospectus. This sort of "investment," as a rule, is gone forever and the experience is expensive.

Now that the land man has harvested his crop it is time for every community to get back to first principle, to develop the home place, to build houses and improve the farms and promote the welfare of the home community.

To do all this there will be no better time than the present. Money is plentiful. Invested in a home it cannot get away. Put into farm improvements, it will return dividends. Truly, "there's no place like home" when it come to laying by safely the savings that are to provide for a rainy day. Every move that tends to make the home community better is a move in the right direction.

THE FOLLY OF GETTING WORKED UP.

About ever so often a bill is turned loose in congress, in senate or house, some tariff to raise or some tariff reduce or some budding reformer to douse; and then we stand up on our hind legs and let out a yell like a fan at a game and we swear and we hoot and we shout and we sweat—but the country goes on just the same.

Did you ever recall it has always been so since George Washington sat in the chair? That half of th peeople see nothing but woes in the bills that our statesmen prepare, while another contingent that's equally vast is clapping its hands in acclaim. Then the bill is defeated or the bill it is passed—but the country goes on just the same.

You remember the bill that the democrats had that the whigs knew would ruin the land? How half of the people were thoroughly mad while the other half thought it was grand? Let's see, that was back in the year '53, and all of the folks were aflame. You remember the measure? Well, neither do we—for the country went on just the same.

Now, it isn't the bills that the orators spring, down there in our national halls; it isn't reforms that the orators sing and shout to the capitol walls that make us or break us—that isn't the prize we seek in the national game; the congress adjourns or the orator dies—but the country goes on just the same.

What's the use of us getting excited like that when their climax the orators reach, when they shout insurrection, or proudly stand pat in a star-spangled bannery speech? That this bil or that will bring sorrow or woe the orators loudly may claim, but congresses come and the congresses go—but the country goes on just the same.

Let us plow up the field, let us put in the wheat, let us start up the engine a spell; let us hang out our signboard well over the street and be ready to buy and to sell. Let us cut out the yawp, let us cut out the yelp, let us cut out the pessimist game; let us get down to business—that's all that will help the country go on just the same.

MOVE FOR NEW GOVERNMENT.

The mayor has appointed a committee to frame and recommend a new form of government for the city of La Grande. This committee is composed of some of La Grande's best men and heaviest taxpayers. The duty imposed upon them is a heavy one, but it is necessary. No one is so interested in the city as men who own property and pay taxes. They have a right to a voice in the proceedings and a right to recommend anything that will tend to better conditions.

The old form of electing men as mayor and councilmen is unsatisfactory. There needs be some one upon whom responsibility will heavily rest; one that will be responsible directly to the people who employ and pay him for services rendered. It is with this in mind, as we understand the matter, that the present administration has appointed the committee and urged them individually to accept the responsibility.

It will take weeks of study on this question and the public must not anticipate an early solution of the municipal problem. But with taxpayers at work investigating all forms of government now obtaining in different cities, some good is bound to come from the movement.

A PLEA FOR A SANE VACATION

Let me make a plea for the sane vacation. Many women go away summer after summer, utterly exhausted before a holiday begins by preparations for it. In the fall they return frazzled of nerve and physically worn out because the summer has been one long agony, trying to dress, keep the house and entertain as people do who have thrice their means. This aspiring to a Newport establishment on a Coney Island income goes on North, South, East and West all over our continent, year after year. As time goes on it grows worse because the daughter follows in the steps of her mother and the next generation is bound to be more lavish than the last. One thing that makes the heart is the thought of American men toiling and denying themselves to give such a prodigal family the only sort of vacation that seems to satisfy it.

If men, women and children could be made to understand the blissfulness of a simple holiday, the vast, migratory portion of a nation would learn how much more enjoyment, health and rest could be got from the simple life than from an unending effort to be "just as good" as our neighbor. Every one has to adapt advice to suit one's circumstances; still, from what one woman has learned during many seasons of "cottaging," a few ideas may be gleaned that will prove useful.—Isabel Gordon Curtis in "Success Magazine."

THIS DATE IN HISTORY.

June 13.

1673—Cataraqui (Kingston, Ont.) founded.

1786—Gen. Winfield Scott born near Petersburg, Va. Died at West Point, N. Y., May 29, 1866.

1798—Malta taken by Bonaparte in the outset of his expedition to Egypt.

1841—Opening of the first United Parliament at Kingston by Lord Sydenham.

1861—Fast day observed in the confederate states.

1864—Fugitive slave act repealed by the house of representatives.

1882—Mr. G. A. B. Walkem resigned the premiership of British Columbia.

1886—King Otto ascended the throne of Bavaria.

1910—Charles K. Hamilton made an aeroplane flight from New York to Philadelphia and return, with two stops.

"THIS IS MY 52ND BIRTHDAY."

Samuel Plantz.

Dr. Samuel Plantz, president of Lawrence university and a man of national prominence in educational circles, was born in Johnstown, N. Y., June 13, 1859. After graduating from Lawrence university, at Appleton, Wis. in 1880 he took a course in theology at Boston university. This was followed by a year of study at the University of Berlin. He was ordained to the ministry of the Methodist Episcopal church in 1885, and from that time to 1894 he officiated in various churches of that denomination. In 1894 he was elected to the presidency of Lawrence, university. Dr. Plantz is a member of numerous religious, scientific and educational societies and is one of the trustees of the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching.

THE OTHER SIDE.

La Grande, June 12.—To the Editor:

—Having read with interest Dr. Gillilan's letter in this Evening's Observer, may I beg the privilege of presenting the other side of the question?

I am not a baseball "fan," and do not wish to argue from that standpoint.

Dr. Gillilan says that the day is being made one of "riot, racket, unresting disturbance, profanity, license and intemperate acting." Surely these are harsh and unjust terms to apply to innocent amusement. I have not observed any indications of a riot, in fact I thought the crowd extremely orderly. As for "racket and unresting disturbance." What is there harmful about noise and disturbance at a ball game? Profanity, except in a few very rare instances, was conspicuous by its absence. Regarding Dr. Gillilan's terms, "license and intemperate acting," I think there are many who would like to know just what is meant. I, for one, saw no indications of either.

Dr. Gillilan also states that ball games should be played on other days except Sunday. Does the worthy Doctor suppose that the mills and stores are going to close down in order that their employes may attend the ball game? Would he, therefore, abolish the national game altogether?

His position does not seem to me to be entirely consistent, even from a religious standpoint. I, myself, was brought up in a strictly religious family, as no doubt, were hundreds of others who attended and approved of yesterday's game. Would Dr. Gillilan have the young people of our city wander aimlessly about the streets on Sundays, or would he have them spend the entire day in church? Either alternative is ridiculous.

Then again, he says that many people were disturbed. That is admitted, but it is evident that the majority of the community approved, judging by the size of the crowd. If some of the good people who were so ruthlessly disturbed would stop to think of the hundreds of hard working people who were enjoying one day out of the seven they might be inclined to feel thankful that such enjoyment were possible for so many and not complain about a little disturbance for a couple of hours.

Yours also for a better La Grande.

J. R. MEDCRAFT.

Many Are Returning.

Trains are crowded today with people returning fromthe Portland Rose Show. La Grande furnished the largest attendance this year to that event that had ever gone from here.

Arcade THEATRE

"The Haunted Sentinel Tower" ..... Edison

An old fortress by moonlight is sufficient basis for almost any kind of a love story and this one is told about two lovers. The players have done their part remarkably well and produced a picture that has many excellent points.

"Misplaced Jealousy" .Biograph

A lively comedy.

"Rival Brothers' Patriotism". ..... American Pathe

Here we have a strong war story. The soldiers in this picture are much better than usual

"Cupid's Joke" ..... Biograph

Scenes around a California winter resort. A wealthy young man in search of real love. True to its title, you can't fool Cupid. It's a Biograph.

Miss Stephenson will sing in the spotlight, a ballad: "Mid the Roses."

Roberts—Pianist.

Greenaway—Drums and effects.

Matinee at 2 p. m. every day.

Old Friends and New

Winning permanent, lasting friends is the work of time, and this bank numbers among its clients hundreds of banks and business houses with whom it has had close relations for a great part of the twenty-four years of its existence.

Our friends have helped to make this one of the largest and strongest banks in the West. We have helped in their making, too.

We welcome new friends and will attend to their wants with the same fidelity which has cemented our relations with our older ones.

La Grande National Bank

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are those that everybody is looking for, because when you smoke one of them, you want more. The last pull is the sweetest.—Get the last pull.

FAM US KING

The Prettiest Waists and gowns will become soiled and stained in time. But their usefulness is by no means ended

If Cleaned and Pressed by us they will be as good as new. Send us the waist, frocks, suit or coat that you cannot wear because they are spoiled or spotted. We'll make them so you wear them.

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